63. The need for allotting funds annually for the repair of irrigation tanks and channels in the Neyyattinkara taluk.

Mr. A. Narayana Pillai (Member, Neyyattinkara taluk) pointed out that there were 445 irrigation tanks and several channels in the taluk which were seriously neglected to the great detriment of agriculture in the taluk. Till 1074, the Government used to spend about Rs. 5,000 every year in the repair and maintenance of the above tanks and channels. Since then, the Government had not incurred any expenditure under that head in the Neyyattinkara taluk. He added that, in consideration of the substantial increase of revenue obtained from the taluk after the completion of settlement, the ryots of the taluk had a right to demand the expenditure of a portion of the taluk revenue towards the improvement of its irrigation tanks and canals. He therefore requested that, at least till the proposed Right Bank Channel from the Pechippara Dam became an accomplished fact, a portion of the State funds should be set apart in the budget every year to carry out the necessary irrigation works in the taluk. He also assured the Government that the ryots were prepared to bear the whole cost of all 'petty' works and half the cost of all 'minor' works undertaken by the Government, in accordance with the rules under the Irrigation Regulation.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

64. The need for constructing bridges across the two channels near the Marayamuttathu market and the Perumkadavila Chavadi on the Amaravila-Ottasekaramangalom road.

Mr. A. Narayana Pillai (Member, Neyyattinkara taluk) said that the want of two bridges across the channels near the Marayamuttathu market and the Perumkadavila Chavadi on the Amaravila-Ottasekaramangalom road was a serious public grievance and formed the subject of representation at the seventh session of the Assembly. He requested that the two bridges should be ordered to be constructed without delay.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

65. The opening of drainage channels on the two sides of the Kottukal Yela stretching from Balaramapuram to the sea.

Mr. M. Raman Pillai (Member, Neyyattinkara taluk) stated that the exceptionally heavy monsoon of 1080 caused a serious flood, which damaged the Karappukatti *chira* and the channels leading therefrom. The result was that 2,000 paras of lands in the Kottukal *yela* were so silted up that the lands became unfit for cultivation. He added that the ryots' prayer for the repair of the *chira* and the channels remained yet unheeded. The lands damaged by the flood were mostly Sreepandaravagai and the tax thereon was due in paddy and was being realised since 1080 under coercive proceedings. He urged that the said repairs be undertaken by the Government as the ryots concerned were too poor to do the work or even to bear a portion of the cost of the work. The ryots were, however, prepared to pay an additional amount by way of *chira vari* if the Government would do the work. He therefore requested that, in consideration of the above circumstances, the Government might be pleased to open the drainage channels on the two sides of the Kottukal *yela* as early as practicable.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

66. The need for protected water-supply for the sea-coast villages from Cape Comorin to Punthura at Trivandrum.

Mr. L. H. Netto (Member, Nominated) said that, from Cape Comorin to Punthura in Trivandrum, there were about 60 fishing villages and that the great difficulty they had to contend against was the supply of good drinking water. He pointed out that the wells already kindly provided by the Government at some

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly